

REMARKS

In the action dated May 21, 2003, the Examiner has rejected claims 1-31 under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) as being anticipated by *Sheldon, et al.*, United States Patent No. 6,072,486. That rejection is respectfully traversed.

Claims 1 and 8, for example, are directed to a method and system for displaying icons within a data processing system by determining a quantity of icons to be displayed, determining a designated area of the display screen for displaying those icons and thereafter “automatically scaling each of said plurality of icons in response to said quantity of said plurality of icons in said designated area such that said plurality of icons can be displayed in said designated area of said display screen.”

The Examiner has cited *Sheldon, et al.* believing that they anticipate the claims of the present application by teaching a system which determines a quantity of icons to be displayed determining a designated area for displaying those icons and thereafter automatically scaling the icons in response to the quantity of icons and designated areas such that the icons are displayed within the designated area, citing column 18, lines 29-36 and FIG. 2.

Applicant respectfully urges that the Examiner has misinterpreted *Sheldon, et al.* for the following reasons.

As described in *Sheldon, et al.*, at column 18, lines 19-22 *et seq.* various “deskbars 700 and 710 are displayed and may be resized according to a user’s preference by direct on-screen manipulation utilizing the mouse.” As is well known in the art, the user in *Sheldon, et al.* simply clicks on the edge of a deskbar and drags that edge in the desired direction to increase or decrease the size of the deskbar. Thereafter, *Sheldon, et al.* teach that the resizing of the “deskbar may result in the automatic rearrangement of the deskband icons, which are managed

by the bandsite 120 (FIG. 2). The bandsite 120 manages deskbands by manipulating the position and size of the deskbands. For example, FIG. 12, the deskbar 710 is resized. Consequently, the icons 720 are automatically rearranged by the bandsite such that the icons now appear in one row, as opposed to two rows as shown in FIG. 11.” (*Emphasis Added*)

Applicant respectfully urges the Examiner to note that in FIG. 11 of *Sheldon, et al.* deskbar 710 includes two rows of icons 720 and, as rearranged in FIG. 12, deskbar 710 now only includes one row of icons 720. Nowhere within *Sheldon, et al.* is there the slightest suggestion for altering the size of the icons which are displayed and Applicant urges that the rearranging the graphic position of such icons into a single row or a plurality of rows cannot be said to be suggestive of the automatic scaling of an icon to fit into a particular designated area of a display screen. Further, Applicant urges the Examiner to consider that deskbars 700 and 710 are altered in size, but only as directly implemented by the user.

Support for Applicant’s definition of “scaling” can be found multiple places in the present specification. For example, at page 16, lines 4 *et seq.*, the present specification recites “a vector graphic can be scaled by applying a scaling factor to the image’s mathematical definition so that a reduced or enlarged version of the image can be displayed.” Similarly, at page 17, lines 22 *et seq.*, the present specification recites “according the to the present invention, the sizes of icons 704 are scaled such that all twelve icons 704 can be fully displayed within window 702 without displaying a horizontal or vertical scroll bar.”

Thus, Applicant urges that the present specification clearly teaches that “scaling” is expressly directed to an alteration in the size of an icon displayed within a designated area and as *Sheldon, et al.* clearly teach the mere rearrangement of icons without regard to the size thereof it

is beyond cavil that this reference cannot be said to anticipate, show or suggest the invention set forth within the claims referenced above.

Claim 15 is directed to a computer program product which also expressly recites that automatic scaling of icons in a manner not anticipated, shown or suggested by the cited prior art.

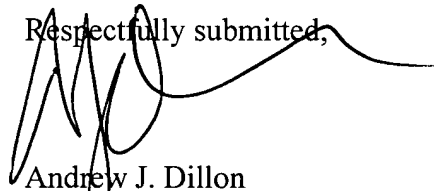
Claims 23-31 are further distinguished from the cited prior art in that these claims teach the determination of the size of a designated display area for displaying a plurality of icons and the utilization of a predetermined minimum size and predetermined maximum size for an individual icon. Thereafter, each of these claims describes displaying a plurality of icons within the predetermined size of the designated display area based upon the predetermined minimum size and the predetermined maximum size by: automatically scaling the icons; displaying a portion of each one of a plurality of icons; or, creating a plurality of selectable displayed screen pages, wherein each screen page has a portion of the plurality of icons displayed within the predetermined size of the designated area.

As it is clear that *Sheldon, et al.* is bereft of any teaching of the scaling of icons to fit within an appropriate display area as set forth within the claims noted above, it is absolute that *Sheldon, et al.* fails to anticipate, show or suggest in the slightest the automatic scaling of the icons, the displaying of a portion of icons or the creation of a plurality of a selectable displayed pages as set forth within claims 23-31 and consequently, the Examiner's rejection of these claims is deemed to be even less appropriate than that noted above.

Consequently, for the reasons set forth within, Applicant urges the withdrawal by the Examiner of the rejection of claims 1-31 as anticipated by *Sheldon, et al.* and the passage of this application to issue.

No extension of time is believed to be necessary. However, in the event an extension of time is required, that extension of time is hereby requested. Please charge any fee associated with an extension of time to IBM Corporation Deposit Account No. 09-0447.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Andrew J. Dillon', written over the typed name.

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